

In re Patent Application of:

SHI ET AL

Serial No. 09/891,886

Filed: 06/26/2001

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A test meter for a digital signal distribution system comprising:

a front end operative to acquire a digital signal carried by the digital signal distribution system;

signal conditioning circuitry having a plurality of signal conditioning circuits, each signal conditioning circuit corresponding to one digital standard in a plurality of digital standards, the signal conditioning circuitry being in communication with said front end so as to receive the acquired digital signal and operative to apply the acquired digital signal to the signal conditioning circuit in the plurality of signal conditioning circuits that corresponds to the digital standard for the acquired digital signal in the plurality of digital standards; and

a digital demodulator in communication with said signal conditioning circuitry and operative to select one demodulation scheme from a plurality of digital demodulation decoding schemes to obtain a demodulated signal from the acquired digital signal after signal conditioning[[]]; and

a user interface operative to allow a user to select the digital signal.

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2. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of digital standards comprise ITU-T J.83 Annex A, Annex B, and Annex C and the plurality of digital demodulation decoding schemes comprise QAM and QAM variants.

3. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of signal conditioning circuits comprises a first filter that filters the acquired digital signal in accordance with a first digital standard and a second filter that filters the acquired digital signal in accordance with a second digital standard.

4. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 3, wherein said first filter comprises a SAW filter operative to filter a first bandwidth according to the first digital standard, and said second filter comprises a SAW filter operative to filter a second bandwidth according to the second digital standard.

5. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 4, wherein said first digital standard comprises ITU-T J.83 Annex A and said second digital standard comprises ITU-T J.83 Annex B.

6. (Currently amended) The test meter of Claim[[5]] 1, ~~further~~

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~~comprising a~~ wherein the user interface is operative to allow a user to select one digital standard ~~[[in]]~~ from the plurality of digital standards.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The test meter of Claim 1, wherein said ~~test meter further includes a~~ user interface is operative to allow a user to select one digital modulation decoding scheme from the plurality of digital demodulation decoding schemes.

9. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 8, wherein the plurality of digital demodulation decoding schemes includes QAM and QAM variants.

10. (Currently amended) A test meter for a digital cable television system comprising:

a front end operative to obtain a digital television signal from a point in the digital cable television system;

signal conditioning circuitry having a plurality of signal conditioning circuits, each signal conditioning circuit corresponding to one digital standard in a plurality of digital standards, the signal conditioning circuitry in communication

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with said front end so as to receive the obtained digital television signal and operative to selectively apply to said obtained digital television signal the signal conditioning circuit in the plurality of signal conditioning circuits that corresponds to the digital standard for the obtained digital television signal to obtain a digital standard signal;

a digital demodulator in communication with said signal conditioning circuitry so as to receive said digital standard signal and operative to selectively apply one demodulation scheme from a plurality of digital demodulation schemes to obtain a demodulated signal; and

selection circuitry in communication with said signal conditioning circuitry and said digital demodulator and ~~operative~~ operable in dependence upon selection by a user to select a digital standard from the digital standards for application by said signal conditioning circuitry and to select a digital demodulation scheme from the plurality of digital demodulation schemes for application by said digital demodulator.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 10, wherein said plurality of signal conditioning circuits includes a filter

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for each digital standard in the plurality of digital standards.

13. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 12, wherein said plurality of signal conditioning circuits include a first filter for conditioning the obtained digital television signal in accordance with a first digital standard and a second filter for conditioning the obtained digital television signal in accordance with a second digital standard.

14. (Original) The test meter of Claim 13, wherein said first filter is a SAW filter corresponding in bandwidth to an ITU-T J.83 Annex A digital standard, and said second filter is a SAW filter corresponding in bandwidth to a an ITU-T J.83 Annex B digital standard.

15. (Previously presented) The test meter of Claim 10, wherein the plurality of digital demodulation decoding schemes includes QAM and QAM variants.

16. (Currently amended) A method of analyzing a digital signal carried by a digital signal distribution system, comprising:
coupling a test meter to a point in the digital signal distribution system;

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obtaining via the test meter a digital signal carried by the digital signal distribution system;

selecting in dependence upon a user's input from a user interface via the test meter a digital standard from a plurality of digital encoding standards to apply to the obtained digital signal;

applying via the test meter the selected digital encoding standard to the obtained digital signal to obtain a digital standard signal;

selecting in dependence upon a user's input from a user interface via the test meter a demodulation scheme from a plurality of demodulation schemes to apply to the digital standard signal; and

applying via the meter the selected demodulation scheme to the digital standard signal to obtain a demodulated signal for analyzing parameters associated with the demodulated signal.

17. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the plurality of digital standards includes ITU-T J.83 Annex A, Annex B, and Annex C.

18. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the plurality of demodulation schemes includes QAM and QAM variants.

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19. (Cancelled)